Air India :—

Prior to 1980, the eligibility criteria in respect of educational qualification for recruitment to the post of Airhostesses was SSC pass or its equivalent and for Assistant Flight Purser was SSC with minimum 3 years experience in an airline, travel agency, hotel or commercial organisation or SSC with 3 years Diploma in Catering or Graduate. In 1980, the job specification for Airhostess was Graduate or SSC with 3 years diploma in catering. After 1994, the educational qualification for both these posts is Graduate or H. S. C. with 3 years diploma in catering.

(b) This position is not prevalent in Indian Airlines. As regards Air India certain Airhostesses have advanced to the higher managerial grade as they opted out from flying and took up ground assignments, which were vacancy based. Since 1997, with the introduction of time bound promotion policy, career progression of both female and male cabin crew are governed by the years of service in the grade.

(c) This position is not prevalent in Indian Airlines. As regards Air India, while working in the office the junior officials are required to report to the senior officials as per hierarchy of designations followed for office duties irrespective of gender or qualification of the superior.

Evaluation of assets of Indian Airlines

2600. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any evaluation of the total assets of the Indian Airlines;

(b) whether this factor of assets and wealth taken into consideration for fixing the price for shares; and

(c) whether Government take these factors into account to overcome the stock market manipulation to reduce the share value ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The entire shareholding of Indian Airlines is currently with the Government of India and the shares are not listed on the Stock Exchange. However, Government has decided to disinvest 51% of the equity of Indian Airlines. The process of disinvestment has been initiated, and all necessary steps, including for evaluation of assets of Indian Airlines, assessing suitable price for shares etc., will be taken in due course.